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A N
ALARM

To the PEOPLE of

ENGLAND:

Sounded in an

ORATION

From the Top of

St. Paul's Cathedral, *London.*

By a Protestant of the Church of *England.*

*Principijs obsta; seuro Medecina partur
Cum Mala per longas invaluerit Moras.*

L O N D O N :

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A N
ALARM

To the People of

ENGLAND. &c.

IT is not, O Men of *Eng-
land!* That I esteem my self
a Person of the fittest Abili-
ties to speak to you upon this
Occasion, or that I suspect you
to be so devoid of Sense and
Reason, to need any Instructions
B. in

in the Duty of *Protestants* and *Englishmen*, that moves me to address you in this Manner. But in these Times, when so Glorious, so Good, and so truly a Christian Queen fills the *British Throne*, who has graciously protected us in our Religion, Rights and Liberties ; (and may she ever live to protect us) I say, while so indulgent a Planet shines on our Isle, who not only makes us happy in these Enjoyments now, but has secur'd them to Posterity in an establish'd and unalterable Succession of Protestant Princes ; while we breathe a free Air, and feel the inestimable Pleasures of these Blessings, and yet hear murmuring in our Streets against the present Constitution, and Vouchers for the *Pretender* to her Majesty's Crown, using their treacherous Insinuations in
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Publick Assemblies ; I think no true Protestant, no free-born *Englishman* need make any Apology for sounding an Alarm.

The number of these Rebelious Traitors is not, I hope, so considerable as to put us into any real danger in our Religion and Liberties ; but as it is probable that Men thus tainted, may infuse their infectious Principles into others, and in Time increase like a rolling Snow-Ball, let us maturely resolve to resist their Temptations, and rouse up all that is truly *English* in us. It will be of no Disadvantage to us, even tho' there were no Danger, to inquire of our selves, how we cou'd withstand one. For thus, just after our happy Deliverance from Popery and Slavery by King *William*, of Ever-Blessed Memory, the Alarm of a Massia-

cre was in one Night sounded thro' the whole Nation; to try how the Report of returning *Egyptian* Bondage wou'd be receiv'd by us. And it had its intended Effects; for every *Englishman* with a resolute Heart was ready, (had there been Occasion) to have sacrific'd his Life and Fortune to the Protestant Cause. And thus of latter Days there ran a Cry thro' the whole Kingdom, that the Church of *England* was in Danger: Projected, it seems, by the late Wise Ministry to sound the very Base String of our Nation; to feel the Pulse of the People of *England*, and to know how they stood affected towards the Establish'd Church. There again the Consequence was answerable to the Intention, for the Heart of the Nation with one Accord, breath'd a Zeal for an Establish'd

stablish'd Religion ; tho' the Danger it was then in, was little or nothing, as we may see by the mild Punishment sentenc'd upon that Incendiary S——l, from whom, if at all, it was in any Danger.

But as our Case is different from these before-mention'd, so may we with much more Reason be allow'd to arm our Soul against an emergent Occasion. When we are inform'd that a notorious Robber does infest the Neighbouring Villages, shou'd we not be accounted very careless, if we did not firmly secure our Doors, or by joynt Assistance endeavour to take him ? With what stupidity then must we be possess'd, if we lead an indolent supine Life, while a Pretended Supposititious Heir that lays Claim to her Majesty's Crown, and thirsts
after

after our Lives and Liberties, that has once already been repell'd in his Attempts upon us, not only lives, but is protected, and hovers round the Borders of our Land with a whole Train of Abettors and Followers, to make good his pretended Title, and to clear the way for another Inundation of Popery and Barbarism; nay, he is not only contriving all this Abroad, but he has many and powerful Friends at Home, who are spreading their Poison in the very Heart and Bowels of us. All the *Roman Catholicks*, who are not a few, are bound by the Principles of their Religion to wish and hope for him: All the *Jacobites* and *Non-jurors*, who are very many, must, by the dictates of their Conscience, be for him or some body else, since they refuse to take the Oaths to her present

sent gracious Majesty. All the *Non-resistants* and *Passive-Obedience* Men who are for unlimited, unrestrain'd and lawless arbitrary Power, who (falsey believing him to be the true Son of the Popish King *James*) are for a lineal Hereditary Succession, and are far the greater in Number ; all which can never be easy till they have that Person, who will oblige them to put their servile Principles into Practice.

Thus, O *Englishman* ! Which I am now putting you in Mind of, can never be term'd the Result of a Factious Spirit, or the raising unnecessary Jealousies and Dissentions among the Subjects of her dread Majesty , I say, there are Men of this treasonable Temper among us ; I leave it to you to find out how many they are, and prudently to separate yourselves

selves from them. Take all occasions which you lawfully may, to distinguish your selves as Loyal Subjects to the Queen, and a hearty Lover of that Constitution which has entail'd Liberty and Christianity upon future Ages, by effectually excluding Popery and Arbitrary Power. If any desires and wishes for the *Pretender*, he must wish for Popery, with all its bloody Concomitants, and consequently must be such an Enemy to our Religion and Liberties, as every true *Englishman* should abhor and detest. The Persons I am here declaiming against, are such as are declar'd Enemies to the Queen and the Constitution of *England*; therefore I challenge the boldest and biggest Traitor of them all to Answer me. I shall rejoyce to have an Opportunity of impeaching the
confident

confident Villain; and would run the Risque of my Life, in getting him apprehended. For how can that Life which has been breath'd into our Nostril in so happy and so free a Government, which has hitherto been protected by so Auspicious and Prudent a Queen, be better employ'd than in confronting the Enemies to both, and in keeping the boisterous Tide, which if not timely prevented may come pouring in upon us.

And among other Blessings which we, O! My Country-Men, enjoy peculiarly above others Nations, I esteem this not the least, that I have now the Liberty of thus speaking to you. In other Lands, where Men's Souls are enthrall'd by Popery, and their Bodies by Slavery, they are so far from being al-

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low'd

low'd the Liberty of condoling with one another, or complaining of their heavy Grievances, that they may not vent so much as a secret Sigh, or utter a solitary Complaint. But here, blessed be God, it is otherwise, the Mistress of the House in which we are Servants, has always shewn so much Wisdom and Justice, as to admit of the Complaints of the meanest of her Domesticks: And would not refuse to exact the most just Account from her greatest Favourite, if it can be prov'd upon him, that he has embezl'd her Estate. In former Reigns, when Efforts have been made towards the introducing Popery, least the honest *Englishmen* should Alarm one another, a Restraint has been laid upon the Press; that nothing might come forth
among

among the Publick ; but what should blind their Eyes, and gently stroke their Necks, while they were putting on the Halters and Chains of Papacy and Slavery. Therefore we find that free Parliaments are very sparing in laying the People under such Difficulties in making their Grievances known to one another. Suppose, for instance, that the Press were to be stopt ; that nothing were to be publish'd but what came out with the Approbation of the *Examiner*, or some other such mercenary Tool, who is paving the Way for Popery and the *Pretender* : Good God ! How miserable must our Case be, who must take that for Truth which such Wretches should Authorize, without having it in

our Power to put in our Caveats against it.

No, my dear Country-Men ; it is better for us still to see the Valiant Duke of *Marlborough*, who so victoriously beat the *French* for us, calumniated and defam'd, than to have it put out of our Power to Alarm one another against the growing Impudence of the *Pretender's* Party. I am not unmindful how many ignorant People are mislead by the Influence which their Patrons, and the Disposers of their Places have over them. But alas ! Let them not be deceiv'd , for if the *Pretender* comes in, he will have such Followers from *France* and *Rome*, as will soon juggle every one of them out of their Salaries : And out of their Lives too if they don't turn *Papists*. The wealthy Ci-
tizen

tizen will no longer be Master of his own proper Goods; his Wife and Daughters must be prostituted to the Priests, and himself be liable to the bloody Inquisition : Nay, what is dearer to him than all this, his amass'd and painfully - gotten Treasure must be ravag'd and swept away at the Arbitrary Pleasure of his Tyrant. The Country must exchange its Innocence for Ignorance, and its Plenty for Famine. The jolly Yeoman must resign his Beef and Pudding for an Onion and wooden Shoes ; and the strength of his *March* Beer for the first unwholesome Puddle that offers it self. Nay, we must all in general be drove to the severe *Dilemma* of embracing a Faggot in *Smith-field*, or of falling down and worshipping Idols, Stocks and

and Stones, the Gods of the Heathens ; and renouncing the Faith once deliver'd by the Saviour of the World.

What then, you will say, is to be done? We are not in this Case to take up Arms in Defence of the Prince without the Prince's Consent, for that is a most damnable Doctrine and a most abhor'd Position. I say it is ; and a Position that has drawn innumerable ill Consequences upon this unfortunate Nation. But, my dear Country-Men, remember that there is a free Parliament now going to be assembl'd together, who are chosen to represent us, the Commons of *England*. They sit chiefly to seek means to redress the Grievances, and to joyn in enacting Laws for the Good and Preservation of the People of

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England. They are Men of like Passions and Infirmities with us, and have not only the same, but far greater Reasons to be jealous of Popery and Slavery: For they have much larger Revenues to be defrauded of, and are bound in Conscience to labour for the Preservation, not only of themselves and their Families, but of all the People which they are chosen to represent. My dear Brethren, address yourselves to your respective Representatives; tell them that you are neither for *Popery* nor the *Pretender*, but for having your Liberties and Rights truly and faithfully preserv'd, as they have been ever since the Revolution. Let them know that you think yourselves very happy in that the Queen has shewn her uneasiness at the *Pretender's*

tender's not being farther remov'd from her Dominions ; and desire them for their own, and your Sakes to joyn heartily with such pious and truly Christian Endeavours:

I need not mention to you the unparallel'd Impudence of a Book lately Written in the *Pretender's* Favour, and in Defence of his Hereditary Succession: I suppose you may already have heard of it. Read it, and there see with what a specious Pretence his Friends are endeavouring to bring him in; Read it, that you may see they are in earnest, and that your Diligence in opposing them is the more necessary. For tho' we shou'd grant 'em that such a *Lex Legum* ought not to be broken upon every frivolous and light Occasion, and that
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the Resisting Princes upon any Terms may be a dangerous Doctrine ; yet remember it never could be prov'd that He was of the Royal Blood ; remember that we have another *Lex Legum* as inviolable as the former, that no *Papist* can succeed to the the Crown of these Realms. I will not say the least Evil may be done that the greater Good may come of it ; but this I will be bold to say, that where we have our Choice of two Duties, and can perform but one of them, we should prefer the greater before the least, as the more obligatory of the Two. The Question then is, whether it is better to set aside this *Lex Legum* of Hereditary Right, by which the *Pretender* lays his

D Claim,

Claim, or stand tamely still and give up our *Protestant* Religion, Lives, Liberties, and Rights into the Hands of our most bloody and enrag'd. Enemies. Whether shall we displease God most, in admitting a Tyrant who with Blood and Murder would extingnish his Gospel, and abolish Christianity in our Isle, or by breaking, with an Universal Consent, one Human Ordinance which ourselves have made. For my part, I declare, that should any Obstinate *Non-jurer* stand up with all the Sophistry of the Schools, and prove that we ought to pay an absolute *Passive Obedience* to such a *Pagan* Imposter ; should an old subtle *Templer* turn the Laws that were made for our Good against ourselves, and
 prove

prove by his Quirks and Quibbles that such a one can challenge Allegiance from us ; if I could not oppose him with my Reason, I would Arm my self against him with the Shield of Faith, and refuse to listen to any Arguments that oppose the Cause of God and his Gospel, tho' spoken in the Voice of an Angel.

And now, O Men of *England*, as I Question not but these Exhortations of mine, will sting to the Heart of those People who are Enemies to our Constitution ; so you may thereby have an Opportunity of distinguishing who they are that desire an Alteration in our Religion and Government. If any are uneasy at these Complaints, they are the People whom I

aim at: If any stand up and make a Reply to these Allegations, they are the Defenders of the spurious Aspirer, and are gall'd and prick'd to the Heart to see any Opposition made against him. Lastly, if that Trumpeter of Popery and Arbitrary Power the *Examiner*; if that Mongrel, the Teazer in the factious Pack, *A. R——r*, or any other more powerful and eminent Vouchers for the *Pretender*, should snort and grin at me who am now making this Oration to you; avoid them with the same Caution that you would do a mad Cur, whom it is the Concern of all the Neighbourhood to run down from their Confines. And, whenever you lift up your Hearts to the God of Heaven, and pray
for

for the greatest of Temporal Blessings, implore that his Mercy may be shower'd down upon you, in the long and Prosperous Reign of her glorious Majesty.

Grant O Lord that her Days may be many, and strengthen her Islands, that she may still continue to preserve and secure to us, a free Enjoyment of that holy Religion thou hast been pleas'd to reveal to us. Grant that under her our Liberties and establish'd Rights, (the greatest Blessings of our Lives) may be sufficiently defended. Late may'st thou call her to an Eternal Crown of Glory ; and late, but O ! Immediately after, may the Protestant House of *Hanover* succeed ; that those securities in Religion and Liberty which

which we now enjoy, may be confirm'd to us, to the End of this World. And let all the People say, *Amen.*

FINIS.







